

**§ 434. Modular contracting for information technology****(a) In general**

The head of an executive agency should, to the maximum extent practicable, use modular contracting for an acquisition of a major system of information technology.

**(b) Modular contracting described**

Under modular contracting, an executive agency's need for a system is satisfied in successive acquisitions of interoperable increments. Each increment complies with common or commercially accepted standards applicable to information technology so that the increments are compatible with other increments of information technology comprising the system.

**(c) Implementation**

The Federal Acquisition Regulation shall provide that—

(1) under the modular contracting process, an acquisition of a major system of information technology may be divided into several smaller acquisition increments that—

(A) are easier to manage individually than would be one comprehensive acquisition;

(B) address complex information technology objectives incrementally in order to enhance the likelihood of achieving workable solutions for attainment of those objectives;

(C) provide for delivery, implementation, and testing of workable systems or solutions in discrete increments each of which comprises a system or solution that is not dependent on any subsequent increment in order to perform its principal functions; and

(D) provide an opportunity for subsequent increments of the acquisition to take advantage of any evolution in technology or needs that occur during conduct of the earlier increments;

(2) a contract for an increment of an information technology acquisition should, to the maximum extent practicable, be awarded within 180 days after the date on which the solicitation is issued and, if the contract for that increment cannot be awarded within such period, the increment should be considered for cancellation; and

(3) the information technology provided for in a contract for acquisition of information technology should be delivered within 18 months after the date on which the solicitation resulting in award of the contract was issued.

(Pub. L. 93-400, § 38, formerly § 35, as added Pub. L. 104-106, div. E, title LII, § 5202(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 690; renumbered § 38, Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title X, § 1074(d)(1), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2660.)

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section effective 180 days after Feb. 10, 1996, see section 5701 of Pub. L. 104-106, Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 702.

**§ 435. Levels of compensation of certain contractor personnel not allowable as costs under certain contracts****(a) Determination required**

For purposes of section 2324(e)(1)(P) of title 10 and section 256(e)(1)(P) of this title, the Administrator shall review commercially available surveys of executive compensation and, on the basis of the results of the review, determine a benchmark compensation amount to apply for each fiscal year. In making determinations under this subsection the Administrator shall consult with the Director of the Defense Contract Audit Agency and such other officials of executive agencies as the Administrator considers appropriate.

**(b) Benchmark compensation amount**

The benchmark compensation amount applicable for a fiscal year is the median amount of the compensation provided for all senior executives of all benchmark corporations for the most recent year for which data is available at the time the determination under subsection (a) of this section is made.

**(c) Definitions**

In this section:

(1) The term “compensation”, for a fiscal year, means the total amount of wages, salary, bonuses and deferred compensation for the fiscal year, whether paid, earned, or otherwise accruing, as recorded in an employer's cost accounting records for the fiscal year.

(2) The term “senior executives”, with respect to a contractor, means the five most highly compensated employees in management positions at each home office and each segment of the contractor.

(3) The term “benchmark corporation”, with respect to a fiscal year, means a publicly-owned United States corporation that has annual sales in excess of \$50,000,000 for the fiscal year.

(4) The term “publicly-owned United States corporation” means a corporation organized under the laws of a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a possession of the United States the voting stock of which is publicly traded.

(5) The term “fiscal year” means a fiscal year established by a contractor for accounting purposes.

(Pub. L. 93-400, § 39, as added Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title VIII, § 808(c)(1), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1837; amended Pub. L. 105-261, div. A, title VIII, § 804(c)(1), Oct. 17, 1998, 112 Stat. 2083.)

**CODIFICATION**

Another section 39 of Pub. L. 93-400 was renumbered section 40 and is classified to section 436 of this title.

**AMENDMENTS**

1998—Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 105-261 amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (2) read as follows: “The term ‘senior executive’, with respect to a corporation, means—

“(A) the chief executive officer of the corporation or any individual acting in a similar capacity for the corporation;